



MARY ROSE GARRIDO WILCOX SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 5

Featured Story

Maricopa County Gets 'A' on Report Card

Maricopa County does 'A' work! Governing Magazine recently reviewed 40 of the nation's largest counties. Two of the counties were graded with an 'A-' overall, the highest score allotted and Maricopa County was one of them.

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Press Releases

For more information, contact Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox @ (602) 506-7092 or Al Brown, Maricopa County Director of Environmental Services at (602) 506-6617.

Board of Supervisors adopts Brownsfield Tax Reduction Program

(PHOENIX, April 3)—In efforts to encourage clean-up throughout Maricopa County, the Board of Supervisors adopted a Brownsfield Program today that will provide a tax reduction for buyers of contaminated properties. The program is designed to improve neighborhoods, stimulate new tax revenue and reduce risks to the environment.

"We have been working with the City of Phoenix on this for four years," said Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox. "Contamination often scares away traditional funding sources. This brownfields program will help investors and developers face the challenge of expensive cleanups successfully."

In 2001, the State of Arizona unanimously passed a bill to remedy Delinquent Property Tax Reduction Contamination (HB 2432). This bill allows the County Board of Supervisors to reduce the lien for delinquent taxes, interest, costs and penalties on properties that are substantially contaminated with hazardous substance or petroleum (Brownsfields).

Applicants for tax relief have a five-year window to seek "reasonable and necessary" expenses. Applicants may not be the "responsible party" for the environmental damage. Applications will go to a Brownsfield Review Committee before going to the Board of Supervisors.

Brownsfields are industrial or commercial properties that have been abandoned or under utilized as a result of hazardous substance contamination. While these properties have an enormous potential for economic development, they have failed to attract the private market because of the liability and the potential cost involved in the cleanup.